

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

USSS-00 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /031 W

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P 191139Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6990

INFO USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T MADRID 6019

EXDIS

EXCLUSIVE FOR GENERAL GOODPASTER AND GENERAL EADE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MARR SP XF

SUBJECT: USE OF SPANISH BASES IN MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT

REF: (A) STATE 205807; (B) MADRID 6004

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT I READ TO FOREIGN MINISTER AND SUBSEQUENTLY LEFT WITH HIM AT HIS REQUEST DURING INTERVIEW OCTOBER 18:

BEGIN TEXT. WITH REGARD TO OUR CONVERSATION OF OCTOBER 16, I TRANSMITTED TO YOU YESTERDAY A LETTER COVERING THE POINTS THAT YOU RAISED CONCERNING THE PHANTOMS AND TANKERS AIRCRAFT AT TORREJON. I BELIEVE THE EXPLANATIONS IN THAT LETTER FULLY DEMONSTRATE THAT OUR FACILITIES AT TORREJON HAVE NOT BEEN USED IN A MANNER CONTRARY TO OUR AGREEMENT.

I HAVE ALSO COMMUNICATED WITH MY GOVERNMENT REGARDING OUR CONVERSATION. I HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN REPLY.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THE CONSIDERATIONS
SECRET

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SET FORTH BY YOU IN THAT MEETING. THE PRESIDENT WILL, OF COURSE, PERSONALLY REPLY TO THE LETTER FROM GENERALISIMO FRANCO.

IT IS OUR SINCERE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN WILL UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR THE COURSE WE ARE FOLLOWING IN THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS. AS I POINTED OUT TO YOU, WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF THE CRISIS IN AN INTENSIVE DIPLOMATIC EFFORT FIRST TO PREVENT THE OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES, AND AFTER THESE COMMENCED, TO BRING THEM TO AN END AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IN THE MEANTIME, THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT TOOK INITIATIVES IN LAUNCHING MASSIVE AIRLIFTS OF ARMS TO SYRIA, EGYPT, AND IRAQ. AS OF OCTOBER 16 THE NUMBER OF FLIGHTS HAD AMOUNTED TO SOME 400, CARRYING OVER 5,000 TONS OF MATERIEL BY AIR ALONE. THIS MASSIVE INTERVENTION BY THE SOVIETS HAS OBLIGED US TO BEGIN A RESUPPLY EFFORT OF OUR OWN TO ISRAEL. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WANTS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT IT DOES NOT INTEND TO ALLOW THE SOVIET UNION TO DETERMINE THE OUTCOME OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. WE INTEND TO MAINTAIN THE MILITARY BALANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND WILL NOT REMAIN PASSIVE IN THE FACE OF THIS SOVIET ADVENTURISM. WE CONSIDER OUR RESUPPLY EFFORT TO BE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY IF THE UNITED STATES IS TO REMAIN IN POSITION TO USE ITS INFLUENCE TO WORK FOR A JUST, EQUITABLE AND LASTING SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AFTER HOSTILITIES HAVE EMDDED.

WE CONSIDER THAT WHAT WE ARE DOING TO MAINTAIN A BALANCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS NOT IN OUR INTERESTS ALONE, BUT IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL OUR FRIENDS, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE, LIKE SPAIN, WHICH HAVE DIRECT INTEREST IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA. WE HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN WILL CONSIDER WITH THE UTMOST GRAVITY WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES FOR SPAIN WOULD BE IF THE SOVIETS SUCCEED IN THEIR PRESENT ADVENTURE. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT IF OUR EFFORTS ARE SUCCESSFUL, THE ARAB COUNTRIES WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THEY MUST DEAL WITH THE UNITED STATES IN ACHIEVING A SETTLEMENT. THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN MAY BE SURE THAT AN END OF THE FIGHTICG WILL OPEN THE WAY FOR ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN A LASTING PEACE.

WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC REQUEST TO MAKE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF
SECRET

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SPAIN AT THIS TIME. WHAT WE ASK NOW IS UNDERSTANDING OF OUR ACTIONS AND SUPPORT FOR WPAT WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO DO, WHICH IS TO END HOSTILITIES AND TO BRING A JUST, EQUITABLE AND LASTING PEACE TO THE MIDDLE EAST. GENERALISIMO FRANCO'S LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT CLEARLY INDICATES THAT HE SHARES THESE OBJECTIVES.

AS A TRUE FRIEND OF SPAIN, WE WISH TO SUGGEST THAT AN INWARD LOOKING ATTITUDE BY SPAIN IN THIS CRISIS, WHICH DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE BROADER ISSUES INVOLVED, WOULD NOT BE A USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO THE ATTAINMENT OF OUR COMMON OBJECTIVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT WE HAVE EVERY INTENTION OF PURSUING OUR PRESENT COURSE, WHICH WE CONSIDER

ESSENTIAL TO INSURE THE ATTAINMENT OF A LASTING, EQUITABLE
AND JUST PEACE. IWE DO HOPE FOR AN UNDERSTANDING ATTITUDE
FROM OUR FRIENDS, AND ESPECIALLY FROM SPAIN WHOSE FRIENDSHIP
WE PARTICULARLY VALUE. I AM SURE THAT THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT
RECOGNIZES THAT THE POSITIONS AND ATTITUDES WHICH MAY BE
TAKEN AT THIS TIME CANNOT HELP BUT HAVE AN EFFECT IN OUR
FUTURE RELATIONS.

WITH REGARD TO YOUR PROPOSAL FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY AKD URGENT
MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE, IN LIGHT OF THE FULL
STATEMENT OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT POSITION WHICH I HAVE
JUST MADE, TOGETHER WITH THE LETTER THAT I TRANSMITTED
TO YOU YESTERDAY, WE QUESTION WHETHER THERE IS ANY FURTHER
NEED FOR SUCH A SPECIAL MEETING. END TEXT.
RIVERO

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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